



# Council-Manager Form of Government

Community Meeting  
June 22, 2022



# Agenda



Governance Transition  
Committee Recommendation

Meet City Managers

Q&A With the Public

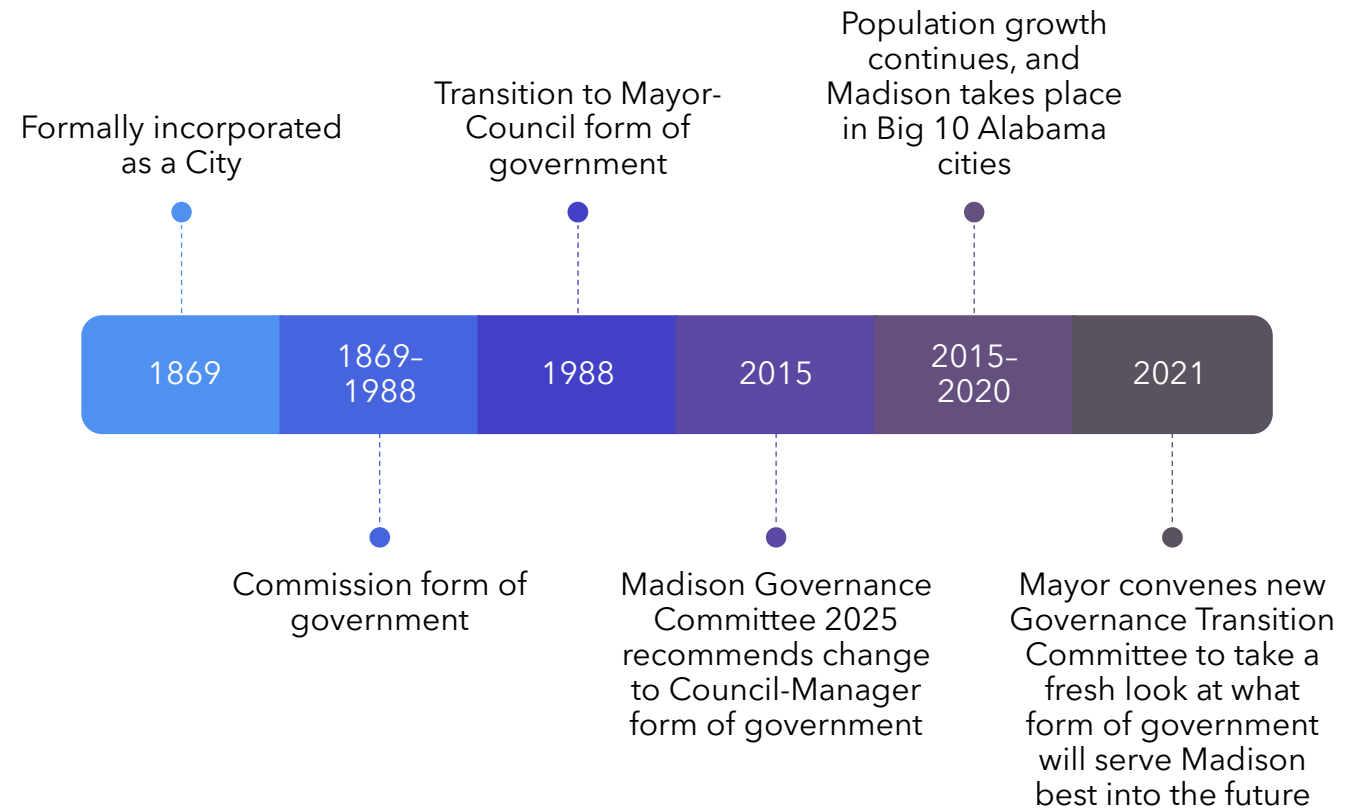
# Introduction

In 2021, Mayor Finley appointed a Governance Transition Committee to study and make a recommendation on the best form of government for a growing City of Madison. The committee issued its report in January 2022 recommending a Council-Manager form of government.

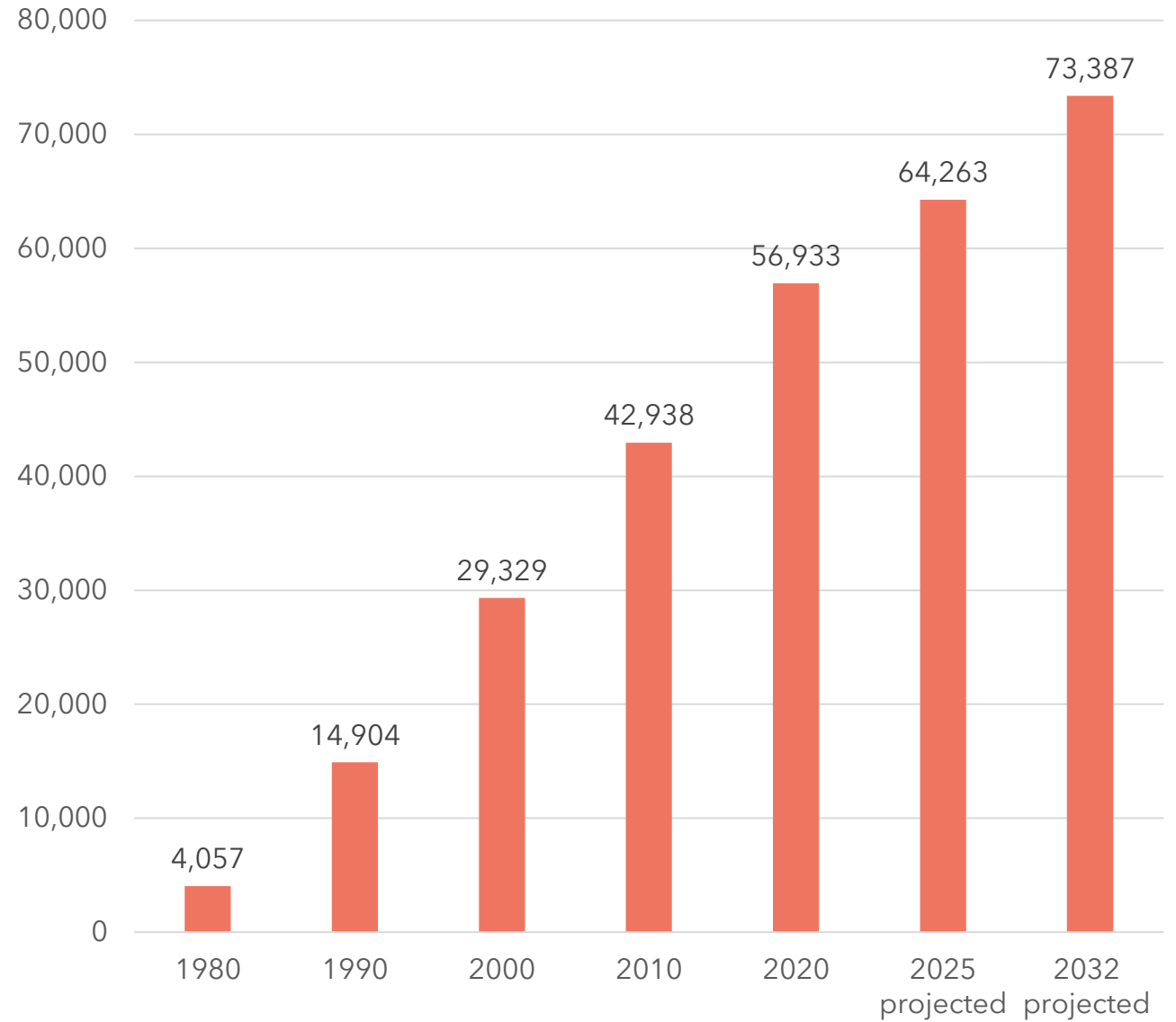
In May 2022, Council President Greg Shaw announced the next phase of community meetings to engage with the public and answer questions.



# Madison Form of Government Timeline



# City of Madison Population



# Committee's Research Work



Learning stance—  
Listening sessions



Leadership of 6  
Alabama cities



Current Madison City  
Department Directors



Former Madison City  
leaders

# Benefits of Council- Manager Form of Government

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Places a credentialed city management professional in charge of daily operations of the city

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Provides continuity of city management even as elected officials change

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Policy making and vision casting resides with elected officials

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Mayor and Council share legislative functions—Mayor serves as President of the Council

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City Manager carries out the policies set by the Mayor and Council

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Clarifies reporting chain and responsibilities for Department Heads and staff

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City Manager can be removed by Mayor and Council if not executing duties under terms of an employment contract

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Keeps politics out of city's administration; city is run like a business



# City Manager


What do they do?





# Comparison of the two forms of government

## **Council-Mayor**

- Mayor and Council elected by citizens of Madison.
  - Mayor serves as CEO of Madison and responsible to run the day-to-day operations of the city, formulate a budget, recommend policy changes to Council, appoint and remove department heads, serve as the “face of the city” at community events, serves as the official representative at business, community, and planning meetings and relationship building at local, state, and federal levels.
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## **Council-Manager**

- Mayor and Council elected by citizens of Madison and responsible for hiring and firing City Manager.
- City Manager is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the city; appoint and remove department heads; present a budget to the council.
- Mayor is the “face of the city” for community events, serves as president of the council and sets agenda, and represents city to local, state and federal leaders and business and community organizations.

# Meet the City Managers

- Sam Gaston – Mountain Brook



- Jeff Downes – Vestavia Hills





# Questions

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Next Steps

# PETITION & SPECIAL ELECTION

- The transition to the Council-Manager form of government starts with the citizens of Madison and can only happen with their consent.
- Process:
  - 1. Citizens sign a petition (900+)
  - 2. Probate Judge reviews the petition
  - 3. Mayor calls for an election
  - 4. City holds a special election
  - 5. Mayor transmits results to the Governor's office



# Upcoming Meetings

- June 30<sup>th</sup> at noon – **Madison Forward** citizens group meeting at Madison Library.
  - Co-Chairs James Ross and Terri Johnson
- July 11<sup>th</sup> at noon – **2<sup>nd</sup> Community Meeting** at Madison Library featuring the role of the mayor in a Council-Manager form of government
  - Guests: Madison Mayor Paul Finley and Auburn Mayor Ron Anders
  - Moderator: Ranae Bartlett, City Council Member District 5





Thank you